

FACULTY GUIDE TO THE ETHICS AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAMS FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

January 30, 2015

Exactly which programs are these, and have they been approved? The main program is a Ph.D., but the core courses are also part of two Graduate Diploma programs, one for students in other graduate programs, and the other for professionals.

Who are the faculty for this program? The proposal lists the following group:

Melanie Adrian, Department of Law
Doris Buss, Department of Law
Gordon Davis, Department Philosophy
Vivek Dehejia, Department of Economics
Jay Drydyk, Department of Philosophy
Lorraine Dyke, Sprott School of Business
Christine Koggel, Department of Philosophy
Patti Lenard, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, University of Ottawa*
James Meadowcroft, Department of Political Science, School of Public Policy and Administration
David Matheson Department of Philosophy
Lisa Mills, School of Public Policy and Administration
Vida Panitch, Department of Philosophy
Pauline Rankin, Departments of Political Science and Canadian Studies
Fiona Robinson, Department of Political Science
Philip Ryan, School of Public Policy and Administration
Rob Shepherd, School of Public Policy and Administration
Alexis Shotwell, Department of Sociology
Sonia Sikka, Department of Philosophy, University of Ottawa*
Christine Straehle, Graduate School of Public and International Affairs, U. of Ottawa*
Christiane Wilke, Department of Law

*University of Ottawa faculty will be appointed to the Ph.D. program as Adjunct Research Professors once the program is approved. Marc Saner, currently Director of the Institute for Science, Society, and Policy at the University of Ottawa, will also join at that time. Stephen Maguire, who is already an Adjunct Research Professor in Philosophy, will also join the EPAF faculty.

Do we need to be cross-appointed? You will receive a 0% cross-appointment into the Ethics and Public Affairs program, but not into the Department of Philosophy. Sandra Kirkpatrick will fill out a cross-appointment request form for you. Please sign it in section C and ask your Chair or Director to sign it in section F. Then return it to Sandra Kirkpatrick in the Department of Philosophy.

What is expected of us as core faculty? The expectation is that everyone will be available at some time for supervising and taking part in team-teaching of the core courses, EPAF 6001 and EPAF 6002. Naturally everyone's workload in their home departments needs to be taken into account, and everyone retains the right to decline team-teaching or a new supervisee in a given year. Participation in team teaching of a one-term course will result in 0.5 credit teaching release from the home department, which will be compensated by contract instructor funding transferred to that department from EPAF.

How will supervisory duties be assigned? The short answer is: on admission, with your consent. Applicants to the Ph.D. program will be asked to identify a number of faculty who might supervise them. As part of the admissions process, the program director will consult with those faculty to consider who might be most appropriate (in terms of interest and workload) to take on initial supervisory duties. An offer of admission will not be made unless two co-supervisors have agreed to take the applicant on as a supervisee – one on the theory/philosophy side, and one on the social science side.

Isn't that too early to assign co-supervisors? No, because the student will begin working with the co-supervisors from the start. If you are offering a graduate course related to the student's research interest, the student should take it. In addition, the student should meet with you regularly over the course of the year to start reading in their research area; this directed reading will also feed into what they report to a seminar in which all of the first-year Ph.D. students identify the ethical concerns in their research area (EPAF 6000). Social science supervisors will also set the Area Examination that their students write in the first term of their second year, which is preparatory towards the thesis proposal and its defence. Starting with the thesis proposal defence, a larger supervisory committee will be struck.

What about governance: who will make the decisions? The following structure has been given to us by the Vice-Provost and Associate Vice-President (Academic), John Shepherd. The administration of the program will be overseen by a Program Committee, comprised of all core faculty. One of the core faculty will be appointed Program Director by the Dean of FASS and the Dean of FPA on the recommendation of the Program Committee; the program director will be responsible for course offerings and teaching assignments, in consultation with chairs and directors of the home departments of core faculty. A smaller Management Committee will make decisions on admissions and ongoing program management: it will be comprised of the Program Director, two core faculty from Philosophy, two core faculty from other schools and departments, and one student.

Will we have an administrator? Where will this person and the students be located? A Program Administrator will be hired to support the Program Committee, Management Committee, and Program Director and to do the normal work of a graduate administrator. This person will be supervised by the Administrator of the Philosophy Department and will have an office on that department's floor, currently Paterson 3A. Similarly, office space for the new students will be created on that floor.

Will there be guest speakers? Yes, a year-long speakers series will be organized, and many of these talks will be given by core faculty, so that we can get to know more about each other's research. Students who attend these talks will be able, with additional work, to earn credit.

Will students have practicum opportunities? Yes, we have developed a professional network of people working in government and civil society, who will be able to mentor the students and arrange practicum opportunities.